



Arizona State Board of Education

1700 W. Washington Street
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Phone: (602) 542-5057
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September 26, 2018

Below are highlights of the September 24, 2018, State Board of Education meeting. The entire meeting can be viewed on the Board's [YouTube](#) page.

A-F Letter Grades Release Timeline

The State Board of Education approved the timeline for the release of the 2017-2018 A-F Letter Grades.

The Arizona Department of Education will calculate letter grades using school data and the approved cut scores (see below), create the file for the public, check for accuracy and then release to schools and the public simultaneously. To ensure a complete and accurate release of letter grades, this work may require up to two weeks.

Once letter grades are released, schools will have until October 25th to submit an appeal to the Board. Grounds for an appeal include environmental issues or events, adverse testing conditions, a school or community emergency, a school tragedy, other similar substantive events or incorrect data.

Below is the complete timeline for 2017-2018 A-F letter grades:

- September 24: Board sets cut scores for 2017-2018
- October 5: Deadline for ADE to release 2017-2018 A-F Letter Grades to schools and the public simultaneously
- October 5 (or earlier if ADE releases before October 5 deadline) - October 25: Appeal window opens for schools to appeal their letter grade
- October 25: Appeals window closes at 5:00 PM.
- November 19: A-F Appeals Committee reviews appeals and issues recommendations to the Board
- December 3: Board considers A-F Appeals Committee's recommendations

A-F Letter Grades Cut Scores

The Board voted to keep the same cut scores as those set for the 2016-2017 school year. The cut score for a K-8 school to earn an A is 84.67 and is 83.83 for high schools.

“The cut scores are based on statistical norms and are the same as last year in order to provide consistency to our schools and students,” said Board of Education President Luke

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Narducci. “We set the A level to recognize distinguished academic performance – proficiency and growth -- that is significantly higher than state average.”

The cut scores set the number of points a school must earn to be graded A, B, C, D and F. Points are based on student academic growth from year to year, scores on the AzMERIT assessment, indicators that a student is ready for success at the next level and high school graduation rates.

K-8 Cut Scores for 2017-2018	
Letter Grade	Cut Scores
A	84.67-100
B	72.39-84.66
C	60.11-72.38
D	47.82-60.10
F	< 47.82

9-12 Cut Scores for 2017-2018	
Letter Grade	Cut Scores
A	83.83-100
B	70.02-83.82
C	56.21-70.01
D	42.40-56.20
F	<42.40

For additional information on how A-F Letter Grades are calculated, the appeals process and more, please go to: <https://azsbe.az.gov/f-school-letter-grades>.

Standards

The Board received more than 1000 written comments and heard from over 40 people at Monday’s meeting regarding the Science and History and Social Science standards. The Board thanks everyone who took the time to have their voice heard. Although the Board did not take any action at the September 24th meeting, it did review the public comments and indicated it may take action at the October 22nd Board Meeting.

Discipline

Do not forget that the Board has established a tool that allows users to search discipline action taken against a certified educator in the last five years. The tool provides publicly

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available information and supporting documents on the action taken against the certified individual, including suspensions, revocations and denials. To use the tool please go to <https://azsbe.az.gov/teacher-certification-ppac> and click on the link on right labeled "Discipline Search".

Future Meetings

The Board's next meeting is October 22, 2018. Meeting materials may be found [here](#). You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

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